

COMMENT OF
THE DAY

Tory Troubles

SLOWLY but surely the Tories are climbing back to popularity, according to the latest British Gallup Polls—as good a reflection as any of the Party's standing in the eyes of the people. The polls show they are almost level with Labour—almost, but not quite. Why?

Today the Party stands at the pinnacle of success, the majority of its proposals enunciated before the last elections translated into solid and convincing achievement. At home, the country has kept its economic balance in the face of an American recession. Workers are said to be better off in terms of real money—to the tune of five per cent—than they were at the beginning of the year. Consumption rose during the year but so did personal savings. Britain saw the end of rationing last year and today there is a greater array of goods in shopwindows than for the last 15 years. Housing targets have been exceeded. Hire purchase restrictions have been eased. Purchase tax has been reduced on a number of items and the economists say—that there will be tax reductions this year. Small ones perhaps, but the Chancellor's calculations in the 1953 "relief" budget and last year's "no-change" budget have given him the chance to make these politically expedient tax cuts in what is regarded everywhere as election year. Abroad, the Tory Government's stocks have never stood higher and Britain has regained its diplomatic laurels in the European sphere and is fast re-establishing itself as the most influential power in the Far and Middle East.

WHY, then, is the Government lagging in this vital race for public support? Paradoxically, it has been unable to close one chink in its economic armour: in fact, in its bid to transform the country's economy from one largely controlled by Government to one regulated by the laws of supply and demand (for which it received the mandate of the people), it has unintentionally—almost unavoidably—broken down the barriers to outside influences and has exposed the country to imported inflation.

And this is the Socialists' trump card: how and when is the Government going to reduce food prices? No doubt about it, prices are high. Christmas turkey: 7-10/- a lb. Eggs: 6/- dozen. Tea: more than 8/- a lb. So the Government's aim must be towards putting value back in the £. Clearly, generous tax cuts—though financially possible—do not commend themselves as a wise starting point. More money to buy the goods they may mean, but the Chancellor's aim must be towards reducing the inflationary pressure in the country, not increasing it. A compromise is possible—even probable—but that will not alter the fact that tea, eggs, bacon and a number of other essential foodstuffs are still taking far too much out of the lower wage earners' pay packets.

Reintroduction of subsidies might provide a short-term answer to the problem. And certainly there is need to make a fair equation between farmers and consumers. Subsidies, however, run contrary to Tory ideals—particularly the dogma propounded in 1950. Also it is a corrective without being a cure to the basic ill in the economy. The Government is justifiably worried at spiralling prices but it will be astounding if Chancellor Butler finds the short-term answer in the Party's version of the Adam Smith test book.

FORMOSA: BRITISH PEERS EXPRESS ANXIETY



Mr Wilson Regrets

He Made The Wrong Remark

Washington, Jan. 26. Mr Charles Wilson, United States Defense Secretary, said today that the Formosa situation was "just a little ripple" in the whole world situation.

But shortly afterwards he apologised to a congressional committee for what he called the "ineptness" of his remark.

What he meant, Mr Wilson said later, was that while Formosa was important, it had no "immediate effect" on the United States military situation.

Mr Wilson had given prepared testimony on that programme to the Armed Services Committee of the House of Representatives when Mr Carl Vinson, the chairman, brought up the Formosa situation.

He asked Mr Wilson whether planned reductions in United States military forces were wise in view of that situation.

CHANGED SITUATION

Mr Wilson replied that the reduction in forces was planned because of the changed situation in Korea and Indo-China. He added that the Chinese Nationalists had a big army and that was the sort of strength needed in the Far East.

He added that the Formosa situation was "just a little ripple" in the world situation.

When questioned by reporters during the lunch adjournment about the "ripple" remark, he said it was "nothing to get excited about."

After lunch Mr. Wilson walked over to the committee room, talked to reporters and told them:

"I didn't mean that it was just a ripple in international affairs. It (Formosa) is very important, but it doesn't change our military needs."

When the committee reconvened, Mr. Edward Herbert, a Louisiana Democrat, said he was "disturbed" by the "ripple" remark.

"The threat there (Formosa) has all the implications of a total war," he declared.

Mr. Wilson thereupon apologised to the committee for what he called his "ineptness" when he said "ripple." He told the committee what he intended to say was that Formosa had "no immediate effect" on our military programme.

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SEVERE BLOW TO NATIONALISTS



'Chinese Communists Given Green Light To Take Islands' GENERAL VAN FLEET'S VIEWS

General James van Fleet, former Eighth Army Commander in Korea, said today that President Eisenhower's policy on Formosa gave "the green light" for the Chinese Communists to take the offshore Nationalist islands.

Speaking to reporters, General van Fleet said that he thought the Formosa policy resolution before Congress merely "restated in formal language" what the United States had been doing all along and that the only change was that it virtually told the Communists to "go ahead and take the offshore islands."

General van Fleet said that the Administration's decision as he understood them from what he had read could deal a severe blow to morale among the Chinese Nationalists.

"It could end the hopes of returning to the mainland," he said, "and it is that hope that has kept up their spirits." — Reuter.

Smugglers Caught In Cyprus

Nicosia, Jan. 26. Troops and police last night seized a small Greek ship believed to be trying to smuggle arms into Cyprus from Greece.

The boat was debating near Paphos, 100 miles west of Nicosia. One of the three arrested aboard the ship was reported to be a Cypriot Greek who was deported from Cyprus several years ago.

Police sources said the boat was a mug from India, a small island south of Greece. They said that it was loaded with all kinds of ammunition, including mines, hand grenades and dynamite.

Eight Cypriot villagers from Chikoura were arrested in connection with the smuggling attempt.

Police had received reports that an attempt would be made to smuggle arms into Cyprus and were on hand to greet the boat. — France-Press.

NO ESTIMATE ON SEATO COSTS

London, Jan. 26. Sir Anthony Eden told the House of Commons today it was impossible to say how much Britain's obligations under the SEATO pact would cost her.

The Foreign Secretary was asked if the cost should be taken into account by the Member. Mr. Harold Dingley, who is in charge of the Foreign Office, said he could not estimate the cost of the commitment to defend the islands under the Ceylon-Peace-Plan, the head of the department of State and Security.

Sir Anthony replied: "It is impossible to make any estimate as to what must be related to the degree and nature of the defence tasks to be undertaken."

But he added that he had previously told the House that the Ceylon-Peace-Plan would not be impaired by any commitment arising from the SEATO pact. — Reuter.

OUTSIZE CABBAGE

Madrid, Spain, Jan. 25. Jose Pala, a former Burmese cabinet minister who is awaiting trial for alleged subversive activities, has announced that he will be a candidate in the forthcoming Spanish Municipal Elections.

Mr. Pala will contest the election on an anti-Communist platform.

It is considered to be the largest emigration ever to go in the past

of Spain. — Reuter.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1 Smart (4). 2 Noose (6). 3 Faschines (6).

4 Plunder (7). 5 Swift (6).

6 Entreaty (4). 7 Handsome youth (6).

8 Piece (7). 9 Situations (6).

10 Curb (4). 11 Buffoon (6).

12 Microbe (4). 13 Dres (4).

14 Disagree (7). 15 Mixture (4).

17 Get up (5). 18 Irish Republic (4).

19 Wander (5). 20 Playthings (4).

22 Gives happiness to (7). 21 Rigorous (6).

26 Borders (4). 20 Units of heat (6).

27 Climbing plant (4). 21 Worm to avert evil (6).

28 Coaxed (7). 22 Depart (5).

29 Part (4). 24 Purloined (5).

30 Quantity of paper (4). 25 Teams (5).

31 Venerates (7). 32 Collections (4).

33 Reverses (7). 34 Sets (5).

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ATHEISM IN THE CLASSROOM

By Elizabeth Hunkin

THE key target in the anti-religious struggle is the child. It is not surprising, therefore, that education should be a sphere particularly affected by the new drive against religious belief and observance in the Soviet Union.

In fact, Soviet educationalists are making a terrible discovery. Religious teaching is, of course, strictly precluded in all schools, but in many there is no sufficiently effective anti-religious teaching either. Here and there, religion has taken hold of both pupils and teachers. Teachers' Gazette has reported many such cases.

In the town of Yaroslavl, for example, there are school children who wear crosses and go regularly to church. One girl in a senior form came under Church influence quite recently and was baptised last year. From another school boy who had been a server in church for some years left to become a priest. Some teachers, too, in Yaroslavl are regular churchgoers, and in their homes a small lamp always burns before the icon.

Environment

The same paper has published several articles showing how the may be done in individual subjects. In the teaching of psychology, for example, the schoolmaster has many openings for active atheist propaganda. Right from the start when dealing with elementary phenomena of the mind, he can explode reactionary dogma about immortality and the after-life.

Teachers' atheistic activities should not be confined to the classroom according to Teachers' Gazette. They must arrange lectures on such themes as "the origin of the universe." They must see that the school library is well stocked with atheist and atheistic literature, and that the books are taken out and read.

Also, since religious beliefs are not springing up of themselves among the pupils, but are prolonged by their environment, they must see to it that atheist propaganda goes on among the adult population in the locality near the school.

Lip-service

But however obvious this demand, it is not easy to enforce. Perhaps those churchgoing teachers in Novosibirsk and Yaroslavl will all be sacked, but how can the authorities be sure that their successors and many other Soviet teachers will not be paying lip-service only to materialism? You cannot manufacture conviction.

As to the children, they present a problem too. Experience has shown that a child may absorb all the facts quite perfectly, give all the right answers in physics, chemistry and Darwinism, and still be ardently religious.



"B-B-BUT IT'S G-GOOD FOR THE SH-SHIVERS"

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Taught To Pray

Teachers' Gazette has also lamented the conduct of teachers near Novosibirsk. One teacher of biology had had her child baptised. Others were always dropping in on church-going friends, and themselves sometimes attended religious services. Worst of all, the headmaster of one village school actually had taught his pupils to pray.

The Soviet educational press complains too that some children come under strong religious influence at home. It is a sure sign of this if they refuse to join the Komsomol (youth organisation).

DON IDDON'S DIARY GOES ON TOUR

THIS GORGEOUS HUSSY PEOPLE CALL MIAMI

PMIAMI, Florida. PERHAPS it was because I put down my London newspaper address in the hotel register that the service has been superlative.

I had hardly settled in my room before a large glass of fresh Florida orange juice arrived, followed by a free travel kit which contained sea and ski tanning lotion, mouthwash, razor blade, shaving-cream, hair tonic, shampoo, bubble bath crystals, deodorant spray-bombs, skin balm, bromoselzer, lipstick, and some vitamin pills.

A bellboy appeared and said:

"I hope you like it here. We have two swimming-pools, but of course there's the ocean just outside your window: we have two flamingoes, three talking parrots, cocktail lounge, coffee-shop, lounge, music all day, cabanas, and lots of swell people."

I said I was sure I would like it, but I didn't think I'd be able to use all the free travel stuff.

The bellboy winked, or maybe he leered, and said: "You never know—Miami is loaded."

Miami is undoubtedly loaded. It must be the supreme pleasure spot of the world, chromium-plated, neon-lit, and rainbow-coloured.

Lights and statues

SOME people say it is vulgar because it blazes bright blue and gold all day and glitters all night with flashing tubes and signs of red, green, yellow, purple, and orange light. There are also statues of men and women in the nude and painted gold here and there.

I find it less vulgar than New York's Times Square or possibly Piccadilly Circus, in better taste than Reno or Las Vegas.

At the risk of sounding like a publicity agent I can only say "Miami is marvellous and Florida is fabulous."

I haven't been here for five years, and then, like a lot of other people, I forecast that the bubble had to burst.

But it didn't. Miami is bigger, brassier, richer, and more successful than ever. About 2,000,000 people will spend \$200,000,000 here this season. And almost everyone in sight is prosperous.

The motel captain has an Olsomobile and is buying a Ford Thunderbird (price over £1,000) for his 17-year-old daughter as a graduation present. The swimming-pool attendant is buying a farm.

Over the bay

I AM staying at Miami Beach, which has a permanent population of 45,000, compared with the 500,000 of Miami proper across Biscayne Bay.

Miami Beach is 40 years old this year, but doesn't show it. In 1910 it was a small string of rugged, undeveloped coastal islands, with a few clapboard houses and beach huts.

But it had the sea, the sand, and the constant sun, and it is on those three fundamentals that the multi-million rainbow resort has been built.

Everything else—the grass, the soil, the timber, the stone, and even the palms, the fine trees, the palisades, the vivid



flowers and shrubs—had to be brought in.

Miami Beach is man-made, and by what men! Gamblers, racketeers, real-estate jugglers, gold-brick sellers, confidence men, and smart, shrewd, and in many instances honest business men with a vision, have built it.

Collins Avenue, which is the main street of Miami Beach, runs the full length of the Islands. I have driven along it a dozen times and I am always rather dazed by it all.

There is nothing like it anywhere in the world, and perhaps this is as well, because two Miamis would be too much.

A bold man

COLLINS AVENUE, named after John Collins, a bold man, has an endless row of swanky hotels in dazzling white, pink, pastel green, pale blue, lemon, all fronting the blue ocean and reaching for the blue sky.

At the last count, which was last week, there were 375 hotels, but there are probably 400 now, as they go up overnight.

The newest hotel is the Fontainebleau, which is sheer white, ultra-modern, terraced, curved, and decked out to kill. It has a ballroom which seats 3,000 and, although the hotel is not completed, it is so spectacular that people stand across the avenue and gaze at the building just as they do at the United Nations in New York. Some suites cost £250—that's £100 a day. A hundred pounds a day!

I am staying at one of the several hundred motels where you can get by, with food, at about £10 a day.

Every day and night Collins Avenue and handsome Lincoln Road, which is Miami Beach's Fifth Avenue, Bond Street, and Rue de la Paix, are clogged with men, women, and children dressed in outlandish costume—swim-suits with mink stoles draped on the shoulders, shorts, bikinis, briefs, halters,

where come flourishes—gambling rackets—a hide-out for big-time hoodlums?"

The official was upset by this: "Just hostile propaganda, that's what it is."

A: I am infatuated with the gorgeous hussy which people call Miami I don't want to write too much about crime, but since I arrived a few days ago there has been the bloody murder of a male hairdresser, a detective has been shot by a madman, 12 police officers have been bashed before a grand jury on charges of being linked with the gambling underworld, and a big illegal racing ring has been broken up.

As gambling is permitted, I am rather puzzled by the alleged link between gamblers and police; but it undoubtedly exists, I said permitted—I should have said encouraged.

He promises

I switched on my car radio this morning, searching for a station that wouldn't blare "Let Me Go, Lover," or "Teach Me Tonight," and I heard the robust voice of "Honest John" say: "Send me 50 dollars for a red hot tip on a sure winner—only 50 dollars. This programme is approved by the authorities."

"Honest John" puts these advertisements for tips on the air every day, so if, say, 100 people send in 50 dollars, he is netting 5,000 crisp or soiled dollars a day.

The new Governor of Florida, Leroy Collins, has just been inaugurated in the capital, Tallahassee, and he promises reform.

One thing the Governor might tackle and abolish is the practice of using convict road gangs on the public highways in Florida.

It is tactless and even inhuman to have spectators like One city official said to me: "We have our prestige to think about."

I said: "Right, but what about Miami's reputation as a town

flowers and shrubs—had to be Hawaiian shirts, yachting caps, pith helmets, bull-fighter pants, sandals, cowboy boots, sunglasses, rhinestone necklaces, and strings of coloured beads.

You can wear anything in Miami Beach as long as you wear something.

I do not think the people are as immaculate as the place itself.

Miami Beach has a uniform perfection of housekeeping, and there are no uncultured lawns, no unkempt trees, shoddy parking lots, or dirty driveways. The City Fathers send out teams of gardeners and trimmers and tree-cutters who keep the place impeccable, and then send the place to the resident who has let his grass grow too long.

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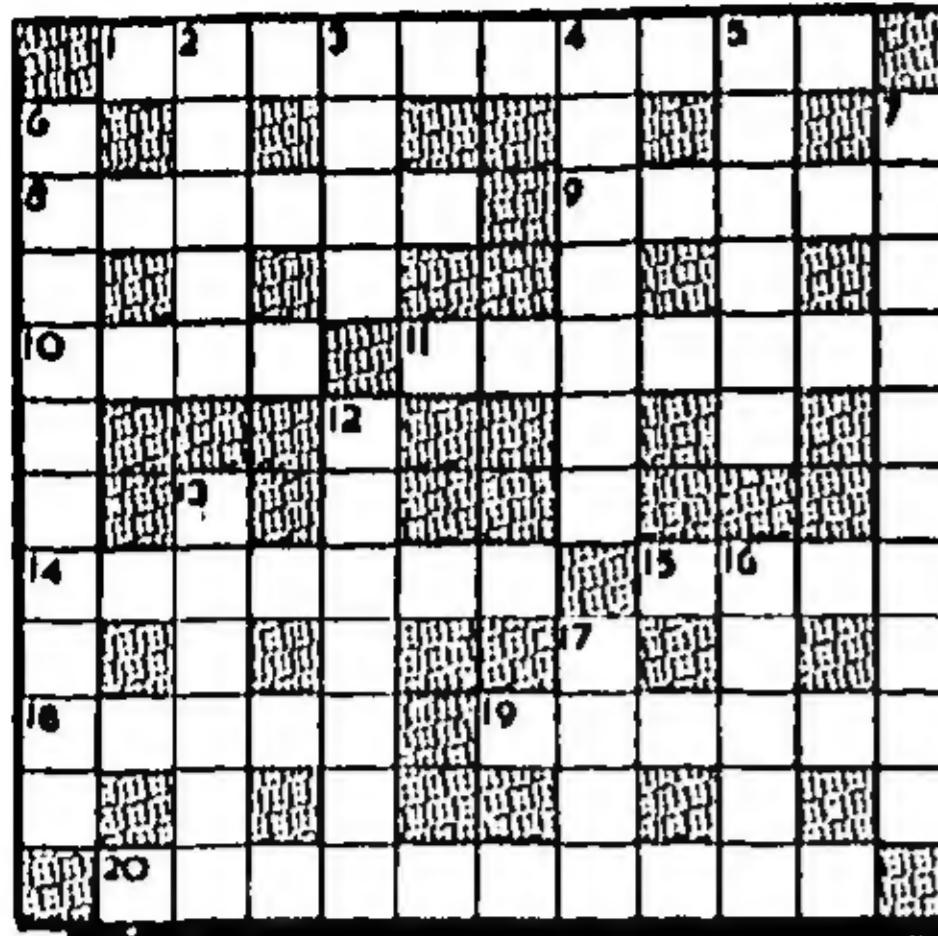
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CROSSWORD



Across
1. Beside Ross (Anag.) (10)
2. An Iris makes it. (6)
3. Queen of it (Anag.) (10)
4. Spike somebody's. (10)
5. Kill somewhere in the set. (7)
10. Spike somebody's. (10)
11. Kill somewhere in the set. (7)
14. Mr. Hale has changed his name. (7)
15. June becomes an employer. (4)
16. Bonny turns into a tarot. (6)
19. The old girl's a bit of a tarot. (6)
20. Mr. Hale vehicles for promotion to a higher sphere. (10)
Down
2. He's belted in the heavens. (5)
3. Live in reverse. (4)

CHAMPION
AERONAUTICS
MEMORANDA
PLANIMETER
PREDATOR
SALVAMENTO
TILLERAGE
SPORTSMAN
Preston's entries

• BY • THE • WAY •
by Beachcomber

"TREACLE" says a head master haughtily, as a somewhat un-economical substitute for glue.

Had he faced a bomb, a clod of 20 lb. of Treacle with a single beam attached to his chin? Did he then pluck off the beams only to find that the adhesive agent was treacle, not glue?

Flies, dull your little boards; another week'll see the traces of this measly creature the bane of this measly house.

Here comes our Fairy Queen; I'm betting you Her beard's securely fastened on with glue.

(Chance of bearded wives.)

A serenade
FLINGING open her window to the implement weather, Miss Wretch leaned out to inhale the

Perpetual wireless?

DEAR SIR,
The fading out of a talk on insurance 40 seconds before the end enabled us to hear Zarky Zarky. Zarky South, Zarky himself, faded out to make room for "Ten Kinds of Torture" surely the best way to give spiritual abuse. I am told to give spiritual abuse. I am told to give spiritual abuse more time, and then to them going all round the clock. Those who do not want to stick up for me, and then listen to the let-up, it is surely absurd to have whole hours during which there is nothing to listen to on the radio, and nothing to see on television.

Yours truly,
Edgar Upchurch

Marginal note

TWO foxes walked into a house in a flooded area the other day. I have noticed that animals are going about in twos, as though fearing that history is about to repeat itself. I fear that probably the house was an ark, and the owner will do well to put up a notice: "No badgers."

DUMB-BELLS



NO!
THAT IS
LAST
YEAR'S
CATALOGUE

TAKE TWO
YEARS
TO BLOOM!

Yours truly,
Edgar Upchurch

YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

BORN today, you are highly ambitious, and it is likely that from an early age you will know exactly what you want and how to go after it. The arts, especially music, offer you the best fields of endeavour, and although you have a good mind for business as well, you will never be completely happy if you enter commerce or finance as a profession. Your creative abilities would satisfy your own creative abilities.

You have a strong drive to accomplish what you set out to do and want to achieve success at an early age. It is likely that this will be everything you do, and that everything else will be for the project in progress. You thrive on praise and attention from others. You like to have your work appreciated and your efforts and home and family are strong and you

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—May be the month of important friendships. You will find that it pays to know the right people.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—May be a good time to make new friends, and the things are budding out even as the month ends.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)—Don't hurry things or there may be trouble in store. Take your time, especially, if driving in heavy traffic.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 21)—You may be asked to take part in some community affairs. Give your best efforts in participation.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—Wind up the week's work at the office, so that you can relax with a clear conscience over the weekend.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)—There is a chance for good luck today, but don't count on it beforehand. Let it come as a surprise.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)—This is a very important month and if you follow through with plans carefully made ahead of time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)—Modesty, rather than show-offishness, will be beneficial today. It presents a far better appearance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)—The month is ending on a highly favourable note, so make full advantage of the good aspects.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)—Keep up to date with the current news. It might affect you personally, so know what's happening.



TARGET

spade opening lead would not have set the contract, but the diamond lead fared no better.

Weiss won the first trick with dummy's queen of diamonds, noting the fall of the eight of diamonds with considerable interest. He next cashed the ace of spades and led a low spade towards his hand.

East was tempted to play the king of spades, but he resisted the temptation. Had he done so, South would have been able to make 12 easy tricks: three spades, two hearts, three diamonds and four clubs. Instead, East played the nine of spades, allowing South to win the trick with the jack.

Now Weiss had only two spade tricks and didn't dare lead the suit again. The diamonds had to be developed, so declarer led a low diamond from his hand. When West produced the six of diamonds, Weiss fished dummy's seven.

This bold finesse, based on the assumption that West had led a long suit as long as he hadn't opened spades, held the trick, and now Weiss made his contract with an overtrick.

With that, Knarf made himself quite small (which is something that shadows can easily do) and a moment later, he

had crawled inside the empty shell. Hanid waited outside. She also made herself small.

"Tell me when it's time for me to come in," she called inside to her brother.

"Knarf is shell-shocked."

The next instant an extraordinary, unexpected and alarming thing happened.

A Hollow Home

It was a brownish shell. It was leaning against a daisy stem.

"It's a snail shell," said Knarf. "It's empty."

Knarf got down on his knees and looked inside. "Yes," he repeated, "it's completely empty. There isn't a thing in it. It's like a cup after I've drunk all my milk."

Knarf began to cry when he had been disturbing its nap.

Hand looked to see what he was pointing at.

"Look!" he cried.

Hand looked to see what he was pointing at.

Knarf came tumbling out of the shell still head-over-heels.

Then the snail who had been inside the shell at the time, taking a nap, put out its head. It looked very angry. It waved its eyes around, which is something that only a small can do, for a small's eyes are at the end of its two horns.

It kept trying to see who had been disturbing its nap.

Hand wasn't quite that sure. However, since she couldn't see any sign of a small inside the shell, she finally agreed that Knarf was probably right about the shell being empty.

"But what can you do with an empty snail shell, Knarf?"

Knarf said: "I'm going to make myself small and crawl inside it. Then I'll have my own house to walk around in."

With that, Knarf made himself quite small (which is something that shadows can easily do) and a moment later, he

had crawled inside the empty shell.

It was Hanid who made the snail quiet down again. She

went up and put her arms around its head.

"Oh, I just saw the empty part," said Knarf.

It was Hanid who made the snail quiet down again. She

went up and put her arms around its head.

"Snails walk slowly but I bet they see a lot," Knarf said.

"I wish I had my eyes on the end of two horns. I'd be able to look back over my shoulder while I walk."

Knarf explained to the small that he thought he was out.

"You poor dear," she said.

"I'll have to make a little sign for you with the words: PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB."

"That would be grand!" said the snail.

"You could hang it right in front of your door when you're taking a nap."

The small thanked Hanid very much. "I'm going for a long walk now," it said. "I'm going to cross to the other side of the road. I expect to be there by late afternoon."

Space is Relative

This didn't seem like a very long walk to Hanid, but she supposed that for a small it was a very long walk indeed.

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OUR WEEKLY AVIATION NEWS



Captain J. Munro, Captain S. J. Brown, Captain P. C. Ward, Captain P. R. Griffin, Captain K. T. Gurne, Captain D. H. Symington, Captain J. G. Simpson and Captain A. R. Marks, the British European Airways pilots who have been seconded as an initial step in resuscitating the German airline, Deutsche Luft Hansa. The pilots will start flying training programme at Hamburg to qualify them in flying the Convair 340 aircrafts with which the D.L.H. is now equipped. With Capt. J. Munro, of the B.E.A. Training Flight, in charge, their training will continue until April. Captain Munro will be assisted by two other B.E.A. Training Flight pilots, Capt. P. McKeown and Captain S. J. Brown. When the D.L.H. is scheduled services start in April, the B.E.A. captains, wearing Lufthansa uniforms, will be in command with Germans as their co-pilots. The British captains will fly for the D.L.H. for 12 months, by which time the German pilots will have become qualified to take over command. —Express Photo.

New Transonic Jet Fighter For The Royal Navy

Since World War II ended in 1945, one British enterprise alone has delivered well over five thousand aircraft, from its various factories at home and overseas.

This is the impressive record of the de Havilland enterprise, which also announces that its output of post-war jet fighters runs into thousands. Nearly twenty Commonwealth, allied and friendly air forces are equipped with these fighters as well as the R.A.F. and Royal Navy. Many more de Havilland jet fighters have been built abroad under licence, together with the engines which power them.

Rigorous Tests

The rigorous test programme includes the Proteus turbo-prop engine, which is at present the only engine in the world of its size fully approved for service with the Royal Navy. The new plane is the D.H. 110, which is the fastest and most powerful fighter ever to go into production for use from British aircraft carriers.

The D.H. 110 will also be the first aircraft to introduce transonic flight to British naval aviation. To give full control at diving speeds above the speed of sound, it has been fitted with power-operated controls and an all-moving tail. These are also fully effective for landing on an aircraft carrier. The 110 has already made a number of touch-downs on a carrier's deck, in the autumn of 1954, and arrested carrier landings will follow later this year.

Guided Missiles

As its primary responsibility in service with the Royal Navy will be the destruction of enemy bombers at high altitudes, the 110 is designed to fight at well over 50,000 feet, and it will carry guided missiles as well as its normal armament of 30 millimetre cannon. Power is derived from two Rolls-Royce Avon engines of the latest mark, which are slanted close together so that if the plane is damaged in battle adequate control remains with only one engine operating.

For night fighting and operations in thick cloud, the 110 will be fitted with a comprehensive range of the latest radar equipment. Its range will be much greater than that of the Sea Venom, the present all-weather fighter of the Navy. An unprecedented programme of flight testing, designed to achieve 2,000 flying hours by mid-1955, has been planned for the giant Bristol Britannia turboprop airliner.

No fewer than four Britannias will take part in this intensive flying programme, which will precede services flown by the airliner on the Empire routes of the British Overseas Airways Corporation.

The proto-type aircraft, engaged on engine and propeller tests, will handle the bulk of the routine development flying at an average rate of 6 hours a day; the first and second production aircraft will undergo the detailed tests necessary to obtain a certificate of airworthiness, at the rate of 75 and 80 hours a month respectively, while the third and fourth aircraft will be fitted with the

scheduled to complete 250 hours of route flying by the summer of next year.

The 2,000 hours of flight tests will include full-scale tropic trials in Africa, and tests from an aerodrome (Johannesburg) situated at high altitude. Results of the Britannia's preliminary hot-weather trials which were carried out at Idris, North Africa, in October suggest that the airliner will fully achieve its performance targets.

Meanwhile, yet another Britannia will be on test in the huge water-tank which was built at Farnborough for structural fatigue tests. These are scheduled for completion by mid-1955.

Cut-rate Line

The future of Icelandic airline Loftleidir as a "cut-rate" North Atlantic operator became less bright last week as a result of the denunciation of the bilateral air agreement between Iceland and Sweden by the latter nation. At the same time as it denounced the agreement, the Swedish Government invited Iceland to send officials to Stockholm for talks on the subject. Meanwhile, it is reported that the Danish and Norwegian governments are planning actions similar to that taken by Sweden.

If all three Scandinavian nations terminated their agreements with Iceland, the non-IATA Icelandic airline could no longer carry traffic between Scandinavia, Iceland and New York, but it could continue operations to its present European terminal, Hamburg. Loftleidir currently operates two flights weekly between Hamburg and New York via Keflavik; one calls at Gothenburg and Oslo, the other at Copenhagen and Stavanger.

A perfect safety record for U.S. international lines and a low fatality rate for domestic carriers enabled Loftleidir to produce in an all-time safety record in 1954 for U.S. commercial carriers, the Air Transport Association, has announced.

Approach Trials

Interavia says: "A Franco-British collaboration with Bendix Aviation Corp. began automatic approach trials in February 1954 and these were continued in Paris in May. These tests are now approaching their end-phase.

It is planned to fit all Air France Lockheed Super Constellations with Bendix Flight Path Control equipment which, as is known, automatically integrates ground signals and from these controls the approach of the aircraft in all aspects (i.e. control surfaces and power plant). As a result the aircraft is kept on a pre-set trajectory for radio-controlled landing. The trials are thus conducted in adverse weather conditions, three aircraft are used in the approach trials and the third aircraft is used for

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

BELGIAN SHIP INDUSTRY

Building And Repair Yards Are Great Asset To Country

The importance of shipping to the Belgian economy proceeds from various essential factors. In 1952, a year of good output, 13,000 workers were occupied in the building and repair of ships; the ship building yards received orders to build 31 ships, representing a value of 2 milliards, 400 million Belgian francs of which vessels to the value of one milliard nine hundred million francs were for export.

The ship repairing yards at Antwerp had a turnover of one milliard and a half Belgian francs and, in addition, the Belgian merchant service, during the same year, brought in assets of more than two milliards of francs as a contribution to the national balance sheet.

This shows, therefore, some three milliards of francs in ships for export and imports to foreign vessels and more than two milliards in freight—an invisible export—or nearly five milliards of francs to the credit of Belgian foreign trade.

This statement would not be complete without adding port

docks from foreign shipping of about five milliards, earned by the Belgian ports in services alone without mentioning inland traffic by rail and waterways, almost the whole of which is provided by the ports for international destinations.

As for the labour employed in the shipyards, one must count for each worker employed on a ship, two to three who are occupied in allied industries such as the making of steel plates and apparatus and installations; which brings the total number of workers engaged in the shipping industry alone to nearly 30,000.

To this must be added 3,000 seamen in regular service and 15,000 dock labourers apart from the thousands of other employees occupied in shipping firms and industries. One can estimate at over 60,000 the number of persons finding employment in the whole field of Belgian shipping as a whole.

Realising the hedge selling upset the world contract following early firmness imported by concern over the Far Eastern political situation. Commodity houses, refiners, and dealers were reported on both sides of the domestic contract.

There exists the possibility of extending the maritime potentialities both with regard to the traffic of the ports, in industrial activity, and the movement of Belgian shipping as a whole.

The single port of Antwerp can handle 40 million tons of merchandise per year, not including the traffic of the new oil port. But the sea-traffic in goods for export and import during 1953 increased to just over 28 million tons including 9 million tons of oil traffic, which brings the initial figure up to 23 million tons. The Port of Antwerp could therefore face up to double the traffic which exists at the moment.

As for the Belgian shipbuilding yards, their production capacity is 114,000 tons of sea-going vessels per year. The Cockerill shipyards at Hoboken, enlarged by the addition of the Antwerp Engineering Company, has an area of 10 hectares (nearly 40 acres); the slipways and dry docks can complete each year six cargo ships of 11,000 tons, that is 60% of the total production capacity of all Belgian shipyards. Powerful electric cranes can handle the heavier items such as steel plates, pre-assembled hull sections, boilers and machinery from the Seating works at Liege. One 120-ton crane has a horizontal reach of 20 metres.

The Boel shipyards at Temse on the Scheldt, have a capacity of 28,500 tons of shipping; a hauling slip—130 metres long—is intended for the repair of the large Rhine barges, coasting vessels and trawlers; the slipways normally allow for the construction of cargo ships up to 5,000 tons but recent understandings surpassed this figure.

Other traders awaited the weekly report on producer loan repayments scheduled to be issued after the close.

Textile markets accounts noted more price-checking among buyers for delivery through the third and fourth quarters.

Trading volumes and open interests in the Exchange today were:

Month	Volume	Open interest
March	42,400	678,800
April	42,400	1,180,000
May	42,400	1,180,000
June	23,500	163,000
July	2,000	116,900
August	7,200	67,600
September	6,000	71,000
October	2,000	200
Total	10,100	2,077,400 bales

NEW YORK

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	33.20
Mar.	34.70
May	35.10
July	35.19
Oct.	35.08
Dec.	35.14
Mar.	35.29
May	35.41
July	35.27

NEW ORLEANS

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	34.80
Mar.	34.85
May	35.22
July	35.38
Oct.	35.08
Dec.	35.14
Mar.	35.41
July	35.30

LIVERPOOL

Cotton closings, American middling, 15/16 inch, in pence per lb., were as follows:

March/April	32.44
May/June	32.44
July	32.40
Oct./Nov.	32.21-24
Dec./Jan.	unclosed

LONDON

Official values for spot cottons include:

American middling	32.00
American L. middling	32.00
1/2 inch	32.00
1 1/2 and 2 inch	32.00

SAO PAULO

Cotton future closings, in pence per kilo, were as follows:

May	32.00
July	32.00
Oct.	32.00
Dec.	32.00

AMSTERDAM

The market was firm, prices closed today in pence per kilo:

Settlement house term	32.00-32.10
April/June	32.00-32.10
July/Sept.	32.00-32.10
Oct./Dec.	32.00-32.10
General market, oilseed	32.00-32.10

United States

General market, oilseed

JOHN CLARKES CASEBOOK

Summing-Up

In Bailey Trial

A bit of a gamble

ON the charge sheet the words appear: "Frequenting a gaming house, and you picture a man being lured into some luxurious enchanting sin of iniquity that is all quilted walls and chandeliers, free champagne, and ivory chips rattling insistently like cascades in the wainscoting. So imagination would have it, and it may be that there are in London places such as that."

But the gaming houses which frequenters a few brought to the West End courts—Marlborough Street and Bow Street—are a different sort of article.

DOUBLE-DECK RUMMY

THEY are upstairs rooms over Soho, cafés, or basement rooms under bookmakers' offices. Tea and not champagne is drunk, and instead of bacardi and chemin-de-fer the usual game played seems to be one with the mirthfully sounding name of "double-deck rummy."

Diligently the police raid these haunts of those who like to gamble. A score or more of arrests follow, and the gamble turns out to be Greeks and Cypriots and Turks, who work as waiters in Soho and are pursued by our gaming laws.

They plead guilty, crowding round the dock and are bound over in varying sums not to frequent gaming houses (or not to be caught so doing) for the next six or twelve months.

I NEVER KNEW

AT Bow Street the other morning, there was a gaming-house case, and everyone pleaded guilty, as was to be expected—everyone except one young Englishman.

He, when the charge was put to him, said: "I never knew it was a gaming house. I was just having a cup of tea."

The cases of the others were disposed of, each was bound over in the sum of £5. They went away, and the young Englishman, George, was left alone in the dock.

A superintendent of police went into the witness-box.

HOW DO YOU KNOW?

THERE were two tables in the room," he said. "At one a number of men were playing double-deck rummy. At the other, where the defendant was sitting, a game had just finished. The defendant was at that table, and when he was arrested he said, 'Give me a chance.'

"How do you know a game had just been finished?" George asked. "There was no card on the table, there wasn't nothing, was there?"

"The game had been finished just before I arrived," the superintendent said, without disclosing how he knew. George went into the witness-box.

I NEVER NOTICED

HE said he was a fruit salesman, and worked at Covent Garden.

"What were you doing in this place, discussing the weather?" the magistrate, Mr. Bertram Reece, asked him.

"I'd an appointment," George said. "I never noticed no card. Anyways, I only had 84d. on me."

"Oh, there's no question of a means test in this sort of case," said the magistrate. "He found the case proved, and asked if anything were known about George.

"There are five convictions for similar offences," said the superintendent. "The last was in 1953."

George was bound over in the sum of £25—five times the amount demanded to ensure the good behaviour of his friends, and he went away with a shrug and an insolence that perhaps he had picked up in his chance encounters with gambling men.

PETROL FLOWS INTO SEINE

Paris, Jan. 26. Nearly 3,000 gallons of petrol flowed into the Seine this morning from a burst pipe in the cellars of the Shell works at Cholny, a Paris industrial suburb.

The underground containers were breached by the flood and one of them leaked.

Local drivers intervened to block 10 more huge drums that have overflowed in the Seine.

The jury retired to deliberate at 11.45 a.m.

Sir Otto Lund Departs



Social Welfare Expert Here

Lieut-General Sir Otto Lund, Commissioner-in-Chief of St John Ambulance Brigade, left by C.P.A. plane for Singapore this morning after an eight-day official visit.

Before boarding his plane, Sir Otto inspected a Guard of Honour mounted by members of the St John Ambulance Brigade.

Among those seeing him off were Mr Fung Ping-fan, Commissioner of St John Ambulance Brigade, Hong Kong, Mr F. S. Coote, Chairman of St John O'Connell, Brigadier Cholmeley, Commander, Hong Kong and Kowloon Garrison, Brigadier T. de F. Jago, Commander, Royal Artillery, 40th Infantry Division, and other officials.

Picture above shows Sir Otto Lund bidding farewell to Mr Fung Ping-fan.

SUGAR FIRM BLACKLISTED

Manila, Jan. 27. The Central Bank Monetary Board blacklisted the sugar firm of J. Amado Araneta yesterday for its irregular exportation recently of US\$500,000 worth of sugar to Japan.

Araneta diverted 4,000 tons of sugar to Japan on January 3 after the Central Bank had granted him an export licence to ship the commodity to Hong Kong.

The Central Bank granted a licence to Araneta to ship the sugar to Hong Kong on his representations that it was bought by the Taikoo Sugar Refining Company.—France-Presse.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"In real life she has had all kinds of trouble with three husbands—how can she endure love some like that?"

THE QUIE CASE: THIS MORNING'S EVIDENCE

Plaintiff Admitted To Hospital In Nick Of Time Says Doctor REASONS FOR INSANITY CERTIFICATION

Dr P. M. Yap, Government psychiatrist and medical officer of the Mental Hospital, expressed his opinion in the Supreme Court this morning that Mr Joseph Leslie Quie, plaintiff in the action against him and two Government colleagues was admitted into hospital "in the nick of time."

Giving his reasons for certifying Mr Quie insane on March 31, 1952, Dr Yap said he was a danger to his wife and daughter, to himself and was in danger of ruining himself financially.

The case is being heard before Mr Justice T. J. Gould, Acting Chief Justice and a

such a person is under a psychological stress, and he has had moments of depression."

In answer to the Judge, Dr Yap explained that frustration in being controlled against his will was an example of psychological stress.

The third reason was that he was a danger to his own health. He had no real understanding of his mental condition. He did not know the dangers to himself of excitement and temptation.

Defendants are Dr Yap, Dr S. H. Moore of the Medical Department, and Prof. A. J. S. McFadzean of Queen Mary Hospital.

Mr Quie is represented by Mr John McNeill, QC, Mr Lawrence Leong and Mr R. W. S. Winter, all instructed by Mr M. A. de Silva.

Defendants are represented by Mr W. A. Blair-Kerr, Senior Crown Counsel, and Mr J. C. McRobert, Crown Counsel.

Asked to give his view of Mr Quie's mental state just before he applied for a new order for Mr Quie's detention on March 28, 1952, Dr Yap said it was "only after the most careful daily observation; after the most careful consideration of the whole history and background as related to me by Mr George Ford, Mrs Quie, Clive Quie, Dr Yang, Dr Dawson-Grove, and Prof. McFadzean; also after having examined the results of laboratory examinations and psychological tests that I became absolutely convinced that he was certifiably insane and should be so certified."

Dr Yap said that the first psychological test, Progressive Matrices, given to Mr Quie on March 30 showed that his performance was below average which he (witness) thought was most unusual in view of Mr Quie's successful career. The second test, Shipley-Hartford, showed definite mental deterioration which was not revealed by rough clinical tests. The third test was given after certification.

DEFINITION

Defining mental deterioration Dr Yap said it was supposed to be evidence of dementia. Dementia as a clinical label was certainly a reversible state, but not necessarily reversible. There was a primary cause of dementia, say a poison in the system. If that poison was there long enough it would lead to structural changes in the brain which would be difficult to reverse. On the other hand if it were acute and not so long-lasting it could be reversed.

Further, even if there were already reversible changes there could be acute exacerbation of the illness leading to more acute disturbances which were themselves reversible. At any time it was difficult to say how much of the disease was reversible and how much was not. The longer one observed the patient the easier it was to tell and the minimum period of observation would be about a month.

Asked by Crown Counsel how Dr Quie's history struck him, Dr Yap stated: "It was the history of a man with insanity in the family (his mother); who possessed an abnormal personality to begin with; who had about 15 years of hard drinking; who two years previously had passed through an undoubted episode of mental illness due to alcohol; who following that had injured himself so severely that he had two comatose periods with depressive features followed by periods of elation. Dr Yap said:

"He said that the final certificate of insanity was signed by him and Dr Moore and was sent to Mr. Hing-Lo. The Magistrate who signed it right away on March 31.

Dr Yap gave his reasons for signing this: "My first and most important reason was that he was a danger to other people. I had in mind Mrs Quie and the daughter. I recalled what I knew: that some months in the past there had been a violent incident where a Malayan dagger, a kris, had been used. The patient said that Mrs Quie attacked him 18 months ago and he has written that down. Mrs Quie said she took the kris in self-defense and that it was not 18 months ago, but several months previously. I was very disturbed by this having occurred as there was no doubt that it had occurred and there is no doubt that it could have led to homicide."

He continued: "There was some question of getting Mr Quie certified at this time. Mr Quie persisted in this. Mr Quie demanded it, but he (witness) had some doubts. One morning Mr Quie actually challenged me to fight. He stood over me, talked more or less, I obviously thought he was going to attack me, and he did."

Dr Yap affirmed that he would take the same course of action if he had the case over again today.

He declared that after certifying the patient confirmed in the state of mild elation that he was a danger to other people. I had in mind Mrs Quie and the daughter. I recalled what I knew: that some months in the past there had been a violent incident where a Malayan dagger, a kris, had been used. The patient said that Mrs Quie attacked him 18 months ago and he has written that down. Mrs Quie said she took the kris in self-defense and that it was not 18 months ago, but several months previously. I was very disturbed by this having occurred as there was no doubt that it had occurred and there is no doubt that it could have led to homicide."

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Dr Yap affirmed that he would take the same course of action if he had the case over again today.

He declared: "I was all the time trying to free Mr Quie psychologically. I thought the outlook was not all that bad for him and so one day I produced before him a very diminished man of abnormal dementia. It was my desire to show him what the end result of his condition could be if he remained untreated again."

The case is continuing.

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15-YEAR SENTENCE

Murder Appeal Allowed

Sentence of 15 years' hard labour was passed by the Full Court (comprising Mr Justice J. R. Gregg and Mr Justice J. Reynolds) this morning on Chan Kau, alias Chan Kai, 27-year-old clerk, whose appeal to the Privy Council against his conviction for murder was allowed.

Chan Kau was found guilty by a Jury of six men and one woman on December 23, 1953, of the murder of Chan Fook, and sentenced by Mr Justice C. W. Reece to death by hanging.

The case for the Crown was that in the course of a street fight on July 23, 1953, between members of two rival gangs, many of whose members were employed at the Naval installations on Stenecutters Island, the appellant, acting with those members, seized a knife from a nearby bread-stall and with it inflicted injuries on Chan Fook from which the latter died.

The case for the Defence was that Chan Fook grabbed the appellant, struck him, and thereafter pursued him and struck him on the back of the head with a wooden implement, and that it was in the course of the pursuit that the appellant seized the knife and struck Chan Fook.

PC DECISION

Chan Kau appealed to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council on March 5, 1954. It was made by special leave in forma pauperis.

Mr Dingle Foot, QC, and Mr Ingram Fook appeared for the appellant before the Judicial Committee. Mr D. A. Grant was for the Crown.

The Committee remitted the case to the Hongkong Full Court with directions to quash the conviction, substitute a verdict of manslaughter, and pronounce sentence accordingly.

The Prosecution in the Hongkong trial was conducted by Mr W. A. Blair-Kerr, Senior Crown Counsel, with Det.-Insp. J. E. H. Hadden, in-charge of investigations, for the Police. Chan Kau was represented by Mr F. H. Kwock, instructed by Messrs Johnson, Stokes and Master.

This morning, Mr Justice Gregg read the order of the Judicial Committee to the appellant, and then heard a plea in mitigation by Mr Loo on behalf of the prisoner.

Mr Loo said that the Court in passing sentence should take the general circumstances of the case, as well as the character of the accused, into consideration.

Counsel said there was an absence of malice in the case, and the Jury had found that there was no prior intent on the part of the appellant, and recommended him to mercy.

BLIND PASSION

The appellant, he said, was not a man of evil, but one concerned in the fight. His conduct was not that of a gangster and so became an accomplice to the actions of his partner, and appointed his blind passion, picked up the knife and struck the victim. The prosecution, he said, was not committed any previous offence. He was a man of fair education and good character, and was not a man who would trouble. He had a wife and two children dependent on him, and was trying to support the family.

Mr Loo argued that appellant had been influenced by his wife, who was a woman of bad character, and that he had been influenced by her.

Mr Justice Gregg told the court that the Full Court had considered all the evidence, and had been moved by the plea in mitigation. They, therefore, remitted the case to the Hongkong Court of Appeal, and directed that the sentence of 15 years' hard labour be quashed.

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